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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Kazutoyo MAEHIRO

Group Art Unit : 2171

Appl. No. : 09/820,554

Examiner : Te Y. CHEN

Filed : March 29, 2001

Confirmation No. : 4973

For : TERMINAL, MESSAGE-SENDING TERMINAL AND METHOD  
FOR RETRIEVING MEMBERSHIP, AND FOR SENDING MESSAGE

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20th Street S.  
Customer Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were filed on September 25, 2003 and May 7, 2002, Applicant hereby submits a copy of a Notice of Reasons for Rejection that was mailed on July 13, 2004, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-351910, in which the following documents were cited:

S. ASAKAWA, "New Business Style Created by Sametime, Searching for Real-Time Collaboration", Lotus Notesmagazine, Japan, Softbank Publishing Inc., Vol. 32, pp. 44-56, June 13, 1999, , together with a partial English language translation of the same;

T. KUDOU, "Let's Try ICQ in UNIX", Software Design, Japan, Gijutsu-Hyohron Co., Ltd., No. 16, pp. 24-34, August 18, 1998, together with a partial English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-290259, together with an English language Abstract and partial English language translation of the same; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 2-161852, together with an English language Abstract and partial English language translation of the same.

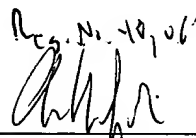
The relevance of each document, as ascertained by the Japanese Examiner applying Japanese rules to the Japanese claims are set forth in the Notice of Reasons for Rejection.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Further, Applicant notes that since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of an Office Action on the merits, Applicant has included a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p). However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any necessary additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kazutoyo MAEHIRO

Reg. No. 29,063  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

November 9, 2004  
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